

MINUTES

Linn County Board of Health Meeting
March 24, 2021 at 4:00 PM
Harris Building - Conference Room #234A/B
1020 6th Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA
Contact: Kim Honn, 892-6000

*Indicates Action Items

1. Call Meeting to Order – Leslie Wright, Chair

Leslie Wright, Board Chair, established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Board Present: Leslie Wright, Dr. Jim Levett, Karl Cassell, Tawnya Salsberry, Stacey Walker (via Phone) and Cory Speth - Legal

LCPH Staff: Pramod Dwivedi, Larry Hlavacek, Jim Hodina, Tricia Kitzmann, Shane Dodge (via phone) and Kim Honn - Recorder

Guest: Diana Strahan – Family Community Alliance

2. Recognize Guests – Pramod Dwivedi

Mr. Dwivedi introduced Mr. Speth as the Board's Legal Liaison and welcomed him to the Board of Health. Each of the Board members introduced themselves to Mr. Speth.

3. Public Comment – Limited to Three Minutes Each
None

4. Approve Agenda *

Motion made to approve agenda as presented.

****MSC Cassell/Levett**

- BOH member/s excused absences

None

5. Approve February 24, 2021 Minutes Meeting *

Motion made to approve minutes as presented.

****MSC Salsbery/Levett**

6. BOH Committee Reports:

- a. Finance and Administrative Review – Karl Cassell, Committee Chair

- i. February 2021 Finance Statements *

Motion made to approve the February 2021 Finance Statements as presented.

****MSC Salsbery/Wright**

- ii. Purchase Order for UnityPoint - \$20,000.00 *

Motion made to approve UnityPoint Purchase Order for \$20,000.00.

****MSC Salsbery/Cassell**

b. Policy and Government Relations Committee – Tawnya Salsbery, Committee Chair

i. Board of Health Bylaws Amendment *

TABLED. Will put on a future agenda after Legal researches electronic voting.

Ms. Salsbery shared the discussion items from committee meeting:

- **The committee and Board agreed to sign the Letter of Support for immunizations.**
- **Requested Legal to research electronic voting by the Board.**
- **Would like agency to look at ethnicity data of who is receiving vaccines.**
- **Discussion was held on the Legislative updates.**
- **DIA (Department of Inspections and Appeals) allowing consumable Hemp products to be sold in Iowa.**

7. Health Director's Report – Pramod Dwivedi

- **Board agreed to sign the Letter of Support for immunizations by using their electronic signatures.**
- **LCPH was selected by NNPHI (National Network of Public Health Institutions) Strategic Scholars Change Management; six staff members are on the team for the next six months.**
- **NACCHO BOD virtual meeting went well; discussed current issues on COVID-19.**
- **He was asked to serve another year on the Board, which he agreed to do until June of 2022.**
- **Interacting with elected officials discussing public health foundational, organizational capacity and legislative issues.**
- **The face coverage ordinance continues to be an issue with lots of calls.**
- **Recorded a video for Make It OK Call to Action.**
- **Linn County is receiving about \$46 billion in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act. Not sure how much public health will get.**
 - **The Board suggested it may be time to connect with the City again about resources because a lot of money will be coming down the pike. The agency should be prepared with projects or shared strategies to submit/discuss when the time is right.**
- **GovSense is providing lots of drama, which has a steep learning curve.**
- **Past the CLIAA audit in the lab.**
- **In the report is a list of the number of cases for COVID -19 since March 2020 thru February 2021.**
- **COVID-19 vaccine information was provided along with partnerships with community stakeholders. Clinical services will work toward additional clinics as the supply increases.**
- **No Long Term Care facility outbreak at this time.**
- **Vulnerable Population workgroup are working to identify barriers for vaccine access.**
- **CTSA (Community Theme and Strengths Assessment) is finishing the design of the survey that can be used at COVID-19 vaccination clinics.**
- **Working with Cedar Rapids Fire Dept. and Linn County mobility coordinator to onboard to Signify/MCC. Revamping of the steering committee and preparations for steering committee orientation in March.**
- **AQ working on daily work and activities.**
- **SHL technical audit on the air monitoring equipment and went well.**

- EPA bench standards for air quality were certified and ozone season will start March 1st.
- DNR approved the quality management plan.
- The number of food safety routine and pre-opening inspections are listed in the report.
 - Ms. Salsbery asked if staff were making continued progress and Mr. Hodina shared as of this morning we were at 100% with all the numbers.
- Increased complaints over the winter related to illegal/unlicensed food operations out of residences. Staff is working with City Zoning Officers in Marion and Cedar Rapids.
- New AQ website went live on March 1st.
- Staff met with the City of Lisbon to update their local rental property code to align with Linn County codes.
- IDNR proposed a change in regulation of water quality.
- Idle Free Linn and Grow Solar programs are back.
- Elevating moving the Tait Cummins site to another location.
- Receiving lots of media calls and responding to those requests.
- He shared how very proud of the staff he is, because they are working very hard.
- No Board meeting in April due to Mr. Dwivedi being on vacation.

8. Board of Health Attorney Report – Cory Speth

- **Mr. Speth will review Article 4 / Section 4.14 regarding electronic voting.**

9. Next Meetings:

Board of Health Meeting – Wednesday – May 26, 2021 at 4:00 PM

- **Finance & Administrative Review committee May 20, 2021 at 2:30 PM**
- **BOH Policy & Government Relations committee meeting May 20, 2021 at 3:00 PM**

10. Adjourn

With no further business a motion was made to adjourn.

**** MSC Cassell/Levett**

March Board of Health Meeting

Wed, Mar 24, 2021 4:00 PM (CDT)

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